

In re Patent Application of:  
**PERMAR, JOHN**  
Serial No. 10/764,350  
Filed: JANUARY 23, 2004

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**In the Specification:**

Please amend paragraph [0028], as follows:

Referring initially to FIGS. 1-3, a first embodiment of a folding knife **20** according to the present invention is now described. In FIGS. 1-2 1 and 2, the folding knife **20** is illustrated in an opened position. In FIG. 3, the folding knife **20** is illustrated as being moved between ~~the~~ an opened position and a closed position. More specifically, the folding knife **20** includes a front cover and a rear cover, but is illustrated in FIGS. 1-3 without the front cover for clarity.

Please amend paragraph [0032], as follows:

The folding knife **20** also includes a lock bar **30** pivotally connected to the handle **24**. More specifically, the lock bar **30** is ~~movable~~ moveable between an engaged position and a disengaged position. The folding knife **20** includes a lock bar connecting member **22** connected to the handle **24**. Further, the lock bar **20** 30 has a lock bar connecting member passageway formed therein. The lock bar connecting member passageway receives the lock bar connecting member **22** to pivotally connect the lock bar **30** to the handle **24**. The lock bar connecting member **22** may be provided by a lock bar connecting pin, for example, or another type of connecting member suitable for pivotally connecting the lock bar **30** to the handle **24**.

Please amend paragraph [0034], as follows:

The lock member **25** also includes a second lock member **46** adjacent the first lock member **40**. The second lock member **40** 46 is defined by a bottom wall **47** and a sidewall **48** extending upwardly therefrom. The bottom wall **47** of the second lock

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member 46 illustratively contacts the second sidewall 42 of the first lock member 40 to form an L-shape.

Please amend paragraph [0035], as follows:

As illustrated in FIGS. 1-2 1 and 2, the lock bar 30 is preferably in an engaged position when the blade 26 is in the opened position. As illustrated in FIG. 3, the lock bar 30 is moved from the engaged position to the disengaged position to move the blade 26 from the opened position to the closed position. When the blade 26 is in the opened position, a portion of the first sidewall 43 of the first lock member 40 contacts a portion of the first sidewall 56 of the first lock member recess 53 to define a contact point 88 between the lock bar 30 and the blade 26.

Please amend paragraph [0037], as follows:

As perhaps best illustrated in FIGS. 1-2 1 and 2, the bottom wall 47 and sidewall 48 of the second lock member 46 are spaced apart from the bottom wall 58 and sidewall 59 of the second lock member receiving recess 57 when the lock bar 30 is in the engaged position. The sidewall 59 of the second lock member receiving recess 57 is also spaced apart from the lock pin 70 when the blade 26 is in the opened position.

Please amend paragraph [0038], as follows:

As further illustrated in FIGS. 1-2 1 and 2, when the blade 26 is in the opened position, the lock pin 70 illustratively contacts the bottom wall 58 of the second lock member receiving recess 57, and also contacts the second sidewall 42 of the first lock member 40. Further, the sidewall 59 of the second lock member receiving recess 57 is spaced apart

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from the sidewall **48** of the second lock member **46** when the blade **26** is in the opened position. Accordingly, when the blade **26** is in the opened position, and the lock bar **30** is in the engaged position, the lock pin **70** contacts portions of the blade and portions of the lock bar **30** to advantageously provide additional lock stability to the blade.

Please amend paragraph [0041], as follows:

The blade **26** illustratively comprises an upper edge **62**, and a lower edge **60**. The lower edge **60** may be a sharpened lower edge. The upper edge **62** and the lower edge **60** of the blade **26** extend from the proximal end portion **50** of the blade initially spaced from one another, to the distal end portion **51** of the blade, where the upper edge **62** and the lower edge **60** of the blade meet to form a tip **64**. The upper edge **62** of the blade **26** may include portions that are sharpened.

Please amend paragraph [0043], as follows:

A recess **36** may be formed in a proximal end portion **32** of the handle **24**. The recess **36** allows a user to access the proximal end **32** of the lock bar **30** to move the lock bar between the engaged and the disengaged positions.

Please amend paragraph [0044], as follows:

The folding knife **26** **20** may also comprise a lock bar spring member **80** connected to the handle **24** to engage a portion of the lock bar **30**. When a user depresses the lock bar **30** along the recess **36** in the handle **24**, the spring member **80** provides a predetermined amount of resistance. Further, upon releasing the lock bar **30** adjacent the recess **36** in the handle **24**, the resistance provided by the spring member **36** **80** returns the lock

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bar to the engaged position. It should be noted that the lock bar **30** is generally in the engaged position, and is moved to the disengaged position when moving the blade **26** between the opened and closed positions.

Please amend paragraph [0048], as follows:

The tapered and threaded lock pin **70'** advantageously allows a user to adjust the tension of the lock strength to be compensated for ware, when needed. Further, the tapered and threaded lock pin **70'** advantageously allows a user to adjust positioning within the lock pin receiving recess **74'**. The other elements of the second embodiment of the folding knife **20'** are similar to those of the first embodiment, are labeled labelled with prime notation, and require no further discussion herein.

Please amend paragraph [0049], as follows:

Referring now additionally to FIGS. 8-9 8 and 9, a third embodiment of the folding knife **20"** is now described in greater detail. The third embodiment of the folding knife **20"** illustratively includes a lock bridge **90"**. The blade **26"** of the third embodiment of the folding knife **20"** has a first lock member receiving recess **53"** and a second lock member receiving recess **57"** formed therein.

Please amend paragraph [0050], as follows:

The lock bar **30"** of the second embodiment of the folding knife **20"** includes a lock member **40"**. The lock bridge **90"** may have an H-shape so that a medial portion of a first side **93"** 92" of the lock bridge **90"** may contact the sidewall **42"** of the lock member **40"**, and so that a medial portion of the second side **92"** 93" of the lock bridge is adjacent to the sidewall **59"**

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of the second lock member receiving recess 57" when the blade 26" is in the opened position. More specifically, the medial portion of the second side 92" 93" of the lock bridge 90" is spaced apart from the sidewall 59" of the second lock member receiving recess 57".

Please amend paragraph [0051], as follows:

The lock bridge 90" may have a trapezoidal shape, but may also have another shape suitable for contacting portions of the lock bar 30" when the lock bar is in the engaged position, as understood by those skilled in the art. The lock bridge 90" further illustratively includes a set screw 91" and a set screw receiving passageway formed therein. Both the set screw 91" and the set screw receiving passageway are preferably threaded to thereby engage one another when turning the set screw to position the blade 26" to a desired height.

Please amend paragraph [0053], as follows:

The lock bridge 90" advantageously enhances the lock strength of the folding knife 20" associated with contact between the lock bar 30", the set screw 91", and the blade 26" when the blade is in the opened position and the lock bar is in the engaged position. The other elements of the third embodiment of the folding knife 20" are similar to those of the first embodiment, are labeled labelled with double prime notation, and require no further discussion herein.

Please amend paragraph [0054], as follows:

Turning now additionally to FIG. 10, a fourth embodiment of the folding knife 20''' is now described. The fourth embodiment of the folding knife 20''' illustratively

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includes a lock pin 70''', and a lock bar 30''' including a first lock member 40''' and a second lock member 46'''. The blade 26''' illustratively includes a first lock member receiving recess 53''' defined by a bottom wall 54''', and first and second opposing sidewalls 55''', 56''', ~~57'''~~ extending upwardly therefrom.

Please amend paragraph [0055], as follows:

The fourth embodiment of the folding knife 20''' further illustratively includes a blade set screw 100''' for setting a desired height of the blade 26'''. The blade 26''' further has a blade set screw passageway formed in the bottom wall 54''' of the first lock member receiving recess 53''' for receiving the blade set screw 100'''. The blade set screw 100''' and the blade set screw receiving recess may be threaded so that the height of the blade set screw may be adjusted by a user, thereby adjusting the height of the blade 26'''. The other aspects of the fourth embodiment of the folding knife 20''' are similar to those of the first embodiment of the folding knife 20, are labeled labelled with triple prime notation, and require no further discussion herein.

Please amend paragraph [0056], as follows:

A method aspect of the present invention is for locking a folding knife 20 in an opened position. The method may comprise moving the blade 26 to the opened position, and moving the lock bar 30 to the engaged position so that a portion of the lock member 25 contacts a respective portion of the blade 26 adjacent ~~at~~ the lock member recess 53 to thereby define a contact point 88 between the lock member and the blade when the blade is in the opened position.